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GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Bahamas, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Samoa, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Suriname, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, United Republic of Tanzania, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zaire and Zimbabwe: revised draft resolution

The nuclear-weapon-free Southern Hemisphere and adjacent areas

The General Assembly,

Determined to continue to contribute to the prevention of the proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects and to the process of general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control, in particular in the field of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, with a view to strengthening international peace and security, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Stressing the importance of the Treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga, Bangkok and Pelindaba, establishing nuclear-weapon-free zones, as well as the Antarctic Treaty,

Recalling that at its first special session devoted to disarmament, the General Assembly declared, inter alia, that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones on the basis of agreements or arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the zone concerned constitutes an important disarmament measure; that the States participating in such zones should undertake to comply fully with all the objectives, purposes and principles of the agreements or arrangements establishing the zones, thus ensuring that they are genuinely free from nuclear weapons; and that the nuclear-weapon States are called upon to give undertakings, negotiated with the competent authority of each zone, in particular, to respect strictly the status of the nuclear-weapon-free zone and to refrain from the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons against the States of the zone,

Recalling also that the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons 1/ reaffirmed the conviction that the establishment of internationally recognized nuclear-weapon-free zones, on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned, enhances global and regional peace and security, and encouraged the development of nuclear-weapon-free zones, especially in regions of tension, such as in the Middle East,

Recalling the applicable principles and rules of international law relating to rights of passage through maritime space,

1. Recognizes with satisfaction that the Antarctic Treaty and the Treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga, Bangkok and Pelindaba are gradually freeing the entire Southern Hemisphere and adjacent areas covered by those Treaties from nuclear weapons;

2. Calls for the ratification of the Treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga, Bangkok and Pelindaba by all regional States, and calls upon all concerned States to continue to work together in order to facilitate adherence to the protocols to nuclear-weapon-free zone treaties by all relevant States that have not yet done so;

3. Calls upon all States to consider proposals to establish further nuclear-weapon-free zones, especially in areas such as the Middle East, to strengthen the nuclear non-proliferation regime and, with particular reference to the responsibilities of the nuclear-weapon States, to advance the process of nuclear disarmament with the ultimate goal of eliminating all nuclear weapons;

4. Calls upon the States parties and signatories to the Treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga, Bangkok and Pelindaba, in order to promote the common goals envisaged in those Treaties, to explore and implement further ways and means of cooperation, including the consolidation of the status of the nuclear-weapon-free Southern Hemisphere and adjacent areas;

1/ See 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I)).

5. Encourages the competent authorities of nuclear-weapon-free-zone treaties to provide assistance to the States parties and signatories to such treaties so as to facilitate the accomplishment of these goals;

6. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session an item entitled "The nuclear-weapon-free Southern Hemisphere and adjacent areas".